



HAWAII FOOD INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION (HFIA)

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DATE: WEDNESDAY, APRIL 25, 2012

TIME: 10 A.M.

PLACE: AT KAPOLEI HALE 1000 ULUOHIA STREET,
CONFERENCE ROOMS A, B AND C.

TO: CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

ERNEST Y. MARTIN, CHAIR

IKAIKA ANDERSON, VICE CHAIR

FROM: HAWAII FOOD INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION

LAUREN ZIRBEL, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

RE: BILL 10

Chairs & Committee Members:

HFIA would like to provide the following comments:

HFIA strongly supports a fee on all single use bags at checkout. This will reduce the total amount of bags used and reduce our waste. Nothing will change consumer behavior as much as a fee per bag and that is why we have put so much effort into passing a fee bill at the State Legislature.

If the Council must pass a ban bill, which we oppose, we would ask that you please use the bill with the latter implementation date in order to give retailers and suppliers adequate time to use up their existing supply of plastic bags.

Regarding Proposed BILL 10, CD 1, FD 1:

HFIA appreciates this bill and views it favorably. We are concerned that the county cannot legally *take a part of this fee* and as such have questions about the bill. We also would ask that the implementation date be delayed longer to provide sufficient time for retailers and suppliers to use up the large quantity of bags they currently possess. We would also *ask that the audit and reporting requirements be deleted from the bill*, as they are too strenuous for smaller

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retailers to comply with. It is difficult to not assess the fee to SNAP and we would ask that the *fee apply uniformly*. We would like for the effective date in Version B to be used.

Regarding Proposed BILL 10, CD 1, FD 1 VERSION A:

Although this bill is not ideal, it is a better alternative than a bill that only allows paper. We prefer the effective date in Version B.

Regarding Proposed BILL 10, CD2, FD 1 VERSION B:

Although this bill is not ideal, it is a better alternative than a bill that only allows paper. We prefer the effective date in this version.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

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